

ANNUAL  
HEALTH REPORT  
OF THE  
HEBBURN URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT,  
FOR THE YEAR 1904.

.....

1904.

.....

BY  
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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,  
AND  
MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT,  
HEBBURN FEVER HOSPITAL.

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Hebburn-on-Tyne :  
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—  
1905.



# URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF HEBBURN.



COUNCILLOR HOLMES, J.P., (Chairman).

COUNCILLOR KELLY (Vice-Chairman).



## Sanitary Committee :

COUNCILLOR ANDERSON (Chairman).

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”	CLAYTON.
”	CORDINER.
”	COWEN.
”	HOLMES, J.P.
”	KELLY.
”	MAIN.
”	ROY.
”	SMAILES.
”	SHARPE.
”	THACKERAY.

*Clerk to the Council :*

MR. ALEXANDER ROBSON.

*Medical Officer of Health :*

A. M. G. WALKER, L.R.C.P. AND S.E.

*Sanitary Inspector :*

R. S. THOMSON, ASSOCIATE ROYAL SANITARY INSTITUTE,



THE  
HEBBURN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL,

1905.

.....

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my  
Third Annual Report upon the health and sanitary  
condition of the District for the year 1904.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. M. G. WALKER,

L.R.C.P. & S.E.

Hebburn, 1905.



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AREA OF DISTRICT	...	...	1354'415 acres
AREA OF DISTRICT (exclusive of area covered by water)			1193'5 acres
POPULATION (by Census 1901)	...	...	20'901
„ June, 1904	...	...	22'310
DENSITY OF POPULATION	...	16'4 persons per acre	
Average Number of Inmates per House	...	...	4'98
	INHABITED HOUSES,		POPULATIONS,
	June 1904.		June, 1904.
LOCALITIES	QUAY	... 2,250 x 4'98	11'205
OF	NEW TOWN..	1,380 x 4'98	6'872
DISTRICT. }	COLLIERY	... 850 x 4'98	4'233

POPULATION.—In estimating the population I have carefully taken into consideration the effects of the depression in the Shipyards, Factories, and the closing of the Colliery Houses, but the slight decrease of the population by such, and the increase by the number of new houses built and occupied makes the arithmetical average annual increase fairly accurate. The arithmetical average increase for the decade 1891 to 1901 was 426'8 per annum.

In 1904 there were 72 new tenement dwelling houses built, so that 72 multiplied by 4.98, the average number of inmates per house, we get an increase for the year 1904 of 358, which works out fairly accurately.

The estimated populations to the middle of each of the past four years was as follows:—

1901	...	...	21,007
1902	...	...	21,433
1903	...	...	22,065
1904	...	...	22,310

## PART I.

During the year 1904 there were registered 772 Births and 373 Deaths. This represents an excess of births over deaths or a "Natural Increment" of the population of 399 as compared with 455 in 1903, and 497 in 1902.

THE RELATION OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS for the past 3 years.

		1902.		1903.		1904.
Births	...	855	...	805	...	772
Deaths	...	358	...	350	...	373

OF THE DEATHS for 1904, 201 were Males.

172 were Females.

—  
29 more Males than Females.

OF THE BIRTHS, 423 were Males.

349 were Females.

—  
74 more Males than Females.

EXCESS OF DEATHS OF MALES OVER FEMALES.—

In 1901, 32; in 1902, 6; in 1903, 44; in 1904, 74.

BIRTH RATE for 1904 was 34·5 per 1,000 population.

DEATH RATE „ 16·7 „

#### COMPARISON OF BIRTH RATES—

Rural England and Wales 26·8 per 1,000 population.

England and Wales 27·9 „ „

County of Durham 35·6 „ „

Hebburn Urban District 34·5 „ „

76 Great Towns 29·1 „ „

142 Smaller Towns 27·5 „ „

#### COMPARISON OF DEATH RATES—

Rural England and Wales 15·3 per 1,000 population.

England and Wales 16·2 „ „

County of Durham 18·3 „ „

Hebburn Urban District 16·7 „ „

76 Great Towns 17·2 „ „

142 Smaller Towns 15·6 „ „

COMPARISON OF BIRTH AND DEATH RATES per 1,000 population for Hebburn Urban District:—

		1902.		1903.		1904.
Birth Rates	...	39·8	...	36·5	...	34·5
Death Rates	...	16·7	...	15·8	...	16·7

#### Quarterly Mortality and Birth Rates.

		1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	For the Year.
Hebburn Urban District	Births	37·4	33·8	37·4	29·9	34·5
	Deaths	17·2	12·1	19·0	18·0	16·7

## Mortality in Relation to Period of Year, Age and Locality.

		Jan.	Feb.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	Sept.	October.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.	Infants under 5 years.
QUAY.	Under 1 year	6	7	6	8	4	5	5	6	4	9	6	8	74	104
	1 year & under 5	0	1	4	1	0	2	1	2	4	3	7	5	30	
	5     "     15	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	8	
	15   "    25	0	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	6	
	25   "    65	7	5	13	2	8	5	3	5	5	8	5	4	70	
	65 and over ..	1	3	4	2	3	1	3	2	0	2	2	8	31	
Total ..		14	16	30	13	17	14	14	16	14	22	23	26	219	219
NEW TOWN.	Under 1 year..	0	0	2	6	3	0	3	3	4	1	3	5	30	50
	1 year & under 5	1	2	4	2	3	0	0	3	1	1	2	1	20	
	5     "     15	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	4	
	15   "    25	0	1	3	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	10	
	25   "    65	0	3	2	1	4	3	2	1	3	1	3	3	26	
	65 and over ..	1	2	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	5	14	
Total ..		2	9	14	11	13	3	6	10	8	4	10	14	104	104
COLLIERY.	Under 1 year	2	0	1	1	1	0	0	3	7	1	3	3	22	31
	1 year & under 5	1	1	0	0	0	2	2	0	1	1	0	1	9	
	5     "     15	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	4	
	15   "    25	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	5	
	25   "    65	3	0	2	1	2	3	2	4	1	0	0	0	18	
	65 and over ..	2	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	7	
Total ..		8	3	6	4	3	6	5	8	12	2	3	5	65	65
TOTAL ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	388

## ADULT DEATH RATE.      INFANT DEATH RATE.

(INFANTS UNDER 5 YEARS).

1904...9.0	per 1,000 per annum.	8.2	per 1,000 per annum	= 17.3
1903...8.6	"                   "	7.2	"                   "	= 15.8
1902...8.32	"                   "	8.48	"                   "	= 16.7

### Deaths in Relation to Age and Locality, compared with 1902, 1903, and 1904.

Year.			Under 1 year.	1 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 65 years	65 years and over.	Total.
QUAY .. ..	1902..		61	25	6	13	46	17	168
	1903..		60	26	2	10	60	19	177
	1904..		74	30	8	6	70	31	219
NEW TOWN ..	1902..		26	19	11	3	28	13	100
	1903..		26	9	6	7	35	11	94
	1904..		30	20	4	10	26	14	104
COLLIERY ..	1902..		32	15	8	3	23	9	90
	1903..		31	8	3	4	23	10	79
	1904..		22	9	4	5	18	7	65
TOTAL .. ..	1902..		119	59	25	19	97	39	358
TOTAL .. ..	1903..		117	43	11	21	118	40	350
TOTAL .. ..	1904..		126	59	16	21	114	52	388
DEATH RATES ..	1902..		5·3	2·7	1·1	·88	4·5	1·8	16·7
DEATH RATES ..	1903..		5·5	1·9	·4	·9	5·3	1·8	15·8
DEATH RATES ..	1904..		5·6	2·6	·7	·9	5·1	2·3	17·2

### Infant Mortality.

The mortality of infants under one year measured by the number of deaths per 1,000 born was 147·6 in 1904, 145·3 in 1903, 139·1 in 1902.

### Comparison of Infant Mortality Rates.

Administrative County of Durham	162 per 1,000 births.
Hebburn Urban District	...147·6       ,,
Rural England and Wales...	...125       ,,
England and Wales	...       ...146       ,,
76 Great Towns ...	...       ...160       ,,
142 Smaller Towns	...       ...154       ,,

### Zymotic Diseases.

Total number of deaths, 68. In 1903, 22; and in 1902, 38.

The Zymotic Death Rate per 1,000 population was 3.0. In 1903, '99; and in 1902, 1.53.

### Comparison of Zymotic Death Rates.

Rural England and Wales	...	1.28	per 1,000 population.
England and Wales	...	1.94	"
Administrative County of Durham.	2.59		"
Hebburn Urban District	...	3.0	"
76 Larger Towns	...	2.49	"
142 Smaller Towns	...	2.02	"

**Table of Zymotic Rates for 1904, 1903, and 1902.**

Zymotic Diseases.	Total No. of Deaths for			Annual Rate 1904. Hebburn.	Zymotic Rate, 1904		England & Wales	larger towns	smaller towns
	1904.	1903.	1902.		Hebburn.	Administ'ive Coun. of Dur			
Small-Pox .. ..	3	1	0	.13	"	0.03	7 Chief Epidemic Diseases.	7 Chief Epidemic Diseases.	7 Chief Epidemic Diseases.
Measles .. ..	15	0	18	.67	"	0.55			
Scarletina .. ..	1	0	7	.04	"	0.16			
Whooping Cough ..	13	2	2	.58	"	0.43			
Diphtheria & M. Croup	4	2	2	.15	"	0.29			
Enteric Fever ..	2	3	3	.09	"	0.15			
Epidemic Influenza ..	4	0	1	.15	"	..			
Erysipelas .. ..	1	0	2	.04	"	..			
Diarrhoea .. ..	24	13	2	1.07	"	0.95			
Puerperal Fever ..	1	1	1	.04	"	..			
TOTAL ..	68	22	38	3.0	"	..	1.94	2.49	2.02

### Smallpox.

There were 3 deaths out of a total of 46 cases notified, as compared with 1 death out of a total of 13 cases notified in 1903. Classified according to locality they occurred as follows:—

Quay	...	None
New Town	...	3
Colliery	...	None

Total ... 3

**Measles.**

There were 15 deaths from Measles in 1904, as compared with none in 1903. Classified according to locality they occurred as follows:—

Quay ...	...	13
New Town	...	2
Colliery	...	0
<hr/>		
Total	...	15

**Scarlet Fever.**

There was one death from Scarlet Fever out of a total of 98 cases notified, as compared with no deaths out of a total of 80 cases notified in 1903, classified according to locality.

Colliery	...	1
New Town	...	0
Quay ...	...	0
<hr/>		
Total	...	1

**Whooping Cough (Pertussis).**

There were 13 deaths from Whooping Cough, as compared with 2 deaths in 1903, and 2 in 1902.

**Diphtheria and Membranous Group.**

There were 4 deaths from Diphtheria out of a total of 6 cases notified, as compared with 2 deaths out of a total of 7 cases notified in 1903. Classified according to locality they occurred as follows:—

Quay ...	...	1
New Town	...	3
Colliery	...	0
<hr/>		
Total	...	4

**Enteric Fever.**

There were 2 deaths out of a total of 5 cases notified, as

compared with 3 deaths out of a total of 9 cases notified in 1903. Classified according to locality they occurred as follows:—

Quay	...	...	0
New Town	...	...	1
Colliery	...	...	1
<hr/>			
Total	...	...	2

### **Epidemic Influenza.**

There were 4 deaths, as compared with no deaths in 1903. Classified according to locality they occurred as follows:—

Quay	...	...	4
New Town	...	...	0
Colliery	...	...	0
<hr/>			
Total	...	...	4

### **Erysipelas.**

There was 1 death in the Colliery out of a total of 25 cases notified, as compared with no deaths out of a total of 29 cases notified in 1903

### **Diarrhœa.**

There were 24 deaths from Diarrhœa, as compared with 13 deaths in 1903. Classified according to locality they occurred as follows:—

Quay	...	...	12
New Town	...	...	6
Colliery	...	...	6
<hr/>			
Total	...	...	24

### **Puerperal Fever.**

There was 1 death out of a total of 2 cases notified, as compared with 1 death out of a total of 4 cases notified in 1903. The death occurred in the Quay.



**Non-Zymotic Diseases.—Phthisis.**

There were 29 deaths, as compared with 23 in 1903, and 19 in 1902. Phthisis represents 7·7 per cent. of the total number of deaths for the year, or 1·2 per 1,000 population, as compared with 6·57 per cent. of the total deaths and 1·04 per 1,000 population for 1903. Classified according to locality the deaths occurred as follows:—

Quay ...	...	14
New Town	...	12
Colliery ...	...	3
		—
Total	...	29

Since March, 1903, the voluntary notification of Phthisis has been adopted in our district, but out of a total of 29 deaths which occurred only 24 cases were notified, a slight improvement, as compared with only 6 cases notified in 1903. The cases notified were classified as follows:—

Quay ...	...	15
New Town	...	7
Colliery ...	...	2
		—
Total	...	24

There seems to be some hesitation in notifying the cases, perchance the patients discovers what they are suffering from. In my opinion I think the sooner the patient knows what is the matter the better, and should the disease increase in your district I would advise compulsory notification and the early detection of the disease, and arrangements made to have cases that promise well removed at once to a Sanatorium. Cases that must remain at home I advise as thorough isolation as possible, and that they be supplied with properly printed instructions and disinfectants. There is yet another point I might draw your attention to, and that is the loitering about the various street corners of gangs of men who adhere to the filthy habit of expectorating on the pavement. And should perchance any of them be suffering from the disease as

soon as the sputum (spit) dries the disease is disseminated, that is, the tubercle bacilli which causes the disease is carried by draughts and slight winds and becomes air-borne, and by this means the disease goes on spreading.

I have also taken the precaution of disinfecting the Rooms and Bedding, etc., on becoming aware of the death of a patient, the ordinary precautions for disinfecting are what I adopt, together with having the walls and floors sprayed and washed with solutions of Hydrary Perchloride or Formalin.

### **Other Tubercular Diseases.**

There were 9 deaths, as compared with 14 deaths in 1903, and 11 deaths in 1902. The deaths occurred as follows:—

Quay ...	...	3
New Town	...	4
Colliery ...	...	2
		—
Total	...	9

### **Bronchitis.**

There were 23 deaths, as compared with 31 deaths in 1903, and 26 in 1902. The deaths occurred as follows:—

Quay ...	...	14
New Town	...	5
Colliery ...	...	4
		—
Total	...	23

### **Pneumonia.**

There were 50 deaths, as compared with 36 deaths in 1903. The deaths occurred as follows:—

Quay ...	...	26
New Town	...	14
Colliery ...	...	10
		—
Total	...	50

The deaths from Pneumonia occurred principally among young children ; causes : poverty, negligent parents, and young mothers.

I might here say that in my experience as a private practitioner, I cannot abuse too strongly the growing habits of uncleanness and drinking among certain classes to be found in your district. At the same time I cannot advise the rearing of children on tinned milks.

### **Cancer (Malignant Disease).**

There were 13 deaths, as compared with 17 deaths in 1903. They occurred as follows :—

Quay	...	...	7
New Town	...	...	4
Colliery	...	...	2
<hr/>			
Total	...	...	13

### **Premature Birth.**

There were 18 deaths, as compared with 19 deaths in 1903. They occurred as follows :—

Quay	...	...	11
New Town	...	...	4
Colliery	...	...	3
<hr/>			
Total	...	...	18

### **Heart Disease.**

There were 46 deaths, as compared with 41 deaths in 1903. They occurred as follows :—

Quay	...	...	33
New Town	...	...	9
Colliery	...	...	4
<hr/>			
Total	...	...	46

### **Enteritis.**

This disease has been partly classified under Diarrhœa,

**Other Septic Diseases.**

There were 4 deaths, as compared with 6 deaths in 1903.  
They occurred as follows :—

Quay ...	...	2
New Town	...	1
Colliery ...	...	1
<hr/>		
Total	...	4

**Alcoholism and Cirrhosis of the Liver.**

None.

**Deaths and Accidents of Parturition.**

There were 2 deaths in the Quay, as compared with 3 deaths in 1903.

**Accidents.**

There were 16 deaths, as compared with 16 deaths in 1903,  
They occurred as follows :—

Quay ...	...	5
New Town	...	6
Colliery ...	...	5
<hr/>		
Total	...	16

**Suicides.**

There were no deaths, as compared with 5 deaths in 1903.

**All Other Diseases.**

There were 104 deaths, as compared with 98 deaths in 1903.  
They occurred as follows :—

Quay ...	...	60
New Town	...	28
Colliery ...	...	16
<hr/>		
Total	...	104

**Uncertified Deaths.**

There were 21 deaths, and various causes given, heart disease, premature birth, &c., as compared with 16 in 1903.

**Corrected Death Rate.**

388 deaths, equal to 17·3 per 1,000 population.

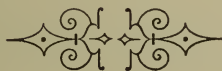
**Coroner's Inquests**

were held in 16 instances, as compared with 25 in 1903.

**Deaths occurring outside the District of persons  
belonging thereto.**

There were 15 deaths. 13 occurred in Harton Workhouse, 2 in the County Lunatic Asylum (Sedgefield).

The addition of these 15 deaths to the total 373, equals 388 deaths, and gives the corrected death rate of 17·3 per 1,000 population.



**Table I.**

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1905 AND  
PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births.		Total Deaths registered in the District.				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Nett deaths at all ages belonging to the District.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Under 1 year of age.		At all ages.					Number.	Rate.*
				Number	Rate per 1,000 Births registered	Number.	Rate.*					
1894	18023	667	37'	66	99'	283	15'7	1	...	10	293	16'2
1895	18449	699	37'8	135	193'	330	17'8	1	...	12	242	18'5
1896	18876	678	35'9	84	122'4	271	14'3	...	...	10	281	14'8
1897	19302	698	36'1	120	171'8	360	18'6	1	...	8	368	19'0
1898	19728	718	36'3	110	153'2	307	15'5	2	...	21	328	16'6
1899	20154	738	36'6	130	177'5	365	18'1	...	...	17	382	18'9
1900	20581	748	36'3	124	165'7	401	19'4	...	...	18	419	20'3
1901	21007	805	38'3	139	172'6	364	17'3	13	...	14	378	17'9
1902	21433	855	39'8	119	139'1	358	16'7	7	1	22	379	17'6
1903	22040	805	36'5	117	145'3	350	15'8	3	...	24	374	16'9
Average for years 1894-1903.	19959	741	37'6	114	153'9	338	16'9	28	01	15	344	17'6
1904	22310	772	34'5	126	147'6	373	16'7	1	...	14	388	17'3

\* Rates calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) 1,193'5

Total population at all ages	...	20,901	} At Census of 1901.
Number of inhabited houses	...	4,253	
Average number of persons per house	...	4'91	

I.—Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.—None.

II.—Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.—Harton Workhouse.

III.—Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.—County Lunatic Asylum (Sedgefield), Memorial Hospital, Jarrow-on-Tyne.

Union Workhouse NOT within the District.

Table II.

VITAL STATISTICS OF SEPARATE LOCALITIES IN 1904 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	WHOLE DISTRICT.				QUAY.				NEW TOWN.				COLLIERY.			
	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year
1894	18023	667	293	66	8965		119	30	4863		89	22	4195		75	14
1895	18449	699	242	135	9210		144	59	4810		91	35	4426		95	41
1896	18876	678	281	84	9564		136	44	4944		69	20	4368		66	20
1897	19302	698	368	120	9701		171	52	5217		89	30	4385		100	38
1898	19728	718	328	110	10238		147	54	5055		81	29	4435		79	27
1899	20154	738	382	130	10238		201	78	5563		90	22	4353		74	31
1900	20581	748	419	124	10116		209	62	5879		99	26	4586		93	36
1901	21007	805	378	139	10250		189	73	6175		102	35	4582		73	31
1902	21433	855	379	119	10472		168	61	6309		100	26	4661		90	32
1903	22040	805	350	117	10966		177	60	6468		94	26	4606		79	31
Average of Years 1894-1903.	19959	741.1	344	114.4	9973		166.1	57.5	5528.3		90.4	27.1	4459.7		82.4	30.1
1904	22310	772	373	126	11205		219	74	6872		104	30	4233		65	22



Table III.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1904.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	Cases Notified in whole District						Total cases notified in each locality.				No. of cases removed to Hospital from each locality.								
	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 to 5 years.	5 to 15 years.	15 to 25 years.	25 to 65 years.	65 years and upwards.	Quay.	New Town. (H)	Colliery.	Out of District.		Total in District.	New Town.	Colliery.	Out of District.		Total.	
											Harton Workhouse.	South Shields				Harton Workhouse.	South Shields		
Small-pox ...	46	...	3	7	12	24	...	31	13	2	...	...	...	13	31	2	...	...	...
Cholera ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria ...	6	...	5	1	...	...	...	4	1	1	...	...	...	1	4	1	...	...	...
Membranous Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	25	...	2	3	...	18	2	11	4	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	131	3	52	74	2	...	...	49	12	70	...	...	...	10	30	58	...	...	...
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	10	...	...	1	5	4	...	4	5	1	...	...	...	2	3	...	...	...	...
Relapsing Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
*Chicken Pox	101	12	53	35	1	...	...	46	30	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	321	15	115	121	20	48	2	147	65	109	...	...	...	26	68	61	...	...	...

Isolation Hospital—Hebburn Urban District Fever Hospital. Mark H denotes the Locality in which the Hospital is situated. Chicken Pox has been notified in our district since March 25th, 1903.



Table IV.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATHS DURING YEAR 1904.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths in or belonging to whole District at subjoined ages.							Deaths in or belonging to localities at all ages			Total deaths in public institutions in the district
	All ages.	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 & under 15	15 & under 25	25 & under 65	65 & upwards	Quay.	New Town.	Colliery.	
Small-pox ... ..	3	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	3	...	...
Measles ... ..	15	3	12	...	...	...	...	13	2	...	...
Scarlet fever ... ..	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Whooping-cough ... ..	13	7	6	...	...	...	...	7	1	5	...
Diphtheria & Membranous Croup	4	...	4	...	...	...	...	1	3	...	...
Croup ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fever, Typhus ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fever, Enteric ... ..	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	1	...
Fever, other Continued ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Epidemic Influenza ... ..	4	...	...	...	...	3	1	4	...	...	...
Cholera ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa ... ..	24	18	3	1	...	1	1	12	6	6	...
Enteritis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...
Erysipelas ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...
Other septic diseases ... ..	4	2	2	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	...
Phthisis ... ..	29	...	...	3	4	22	...	14	12	3	...
Other tubercular diseases ... ..	9	...	1	1	2	5	...	3	4	2	...
Cancer, malignant disease ... ..	13	...	...	...	...	9	4	7	4	2	...
Bronchitis ... ..	23	7	2	...	...	9	5	14	5	4	...
Pneumonia ... ..	50	16	16	3	4	7	4	26	14	10	...
Pleurisy ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other diseases of respiratory organs	6	4	1	1	...	...	...	4	1	1	...
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of liver...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Venereal diseases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth ... ..	18	18	...	...	...	...	...	11	4	3	...
Diseases & accidents of parturition	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	...	...	...
Heart Diseases ... ..	46	4	1	5	...	24	12	33	9	4	...
Accidents ... ..	16	...	...	1	6	7	2	5	6	5	...
Suicides ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
All other causes ... ..	104	47	10	...	3	22	22	60	28	16	...
All causes ... ..	388	126	59	16	21	114	52	219	104	65	...

## PART II.

**Prevalence of Infectious Diseases,  
and Measures taken for arresting their spread.**

There were 321 cases of Infectious Disease notified throughout your district during 1904, as compared with 204 cases notified in 1903. Of the cases notified, 155 were removed to and treated in the Isolation Hospital. This represents 48·2 per cent. of the total number notified, as compared with 72 or 35·2 per cent. in 1903.

The following Table will show the distribution and source of the cases notified.

		Small-pox.	Cholera.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Group.	Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhus.	Typhoid.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.	Continued.	Chicken-pox.	TOTALS.
1st Quarter.	Quay	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	3	10
	New Town	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	5
	Colliery	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	14	19
	Quay	8	...	...	...	1	7	...	...	...	...	...	14	30
	New Town	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	6
	Colliery	...	...	...	...	...	19	...	...	...	...	...	2	21
	Quay	5	...	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	1	...	10	26
	New Town	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	19
	Colliery	...	...	...	...	2	17	...	...	...	...	...	1	20
														65
														156
2nd Quarter.	Quay	1	...	...	...	2	9	...	...	...	...	...	8	20
	New Town	1	...	1	...	1	2	...	1	...	...	...	1	7
	Colliery	1	...	1	...	4	9	...	...	...	...	...	1	16
	Quay	1	...	1	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	3	9
	New Town	4	...	...	...	...	3	...	1	...	...	...	7	15
	Colliery	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	4
	Quay	2	...	...	...	...	3	...	1	...	...	...	3	9
	New Town	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
	Colliery	...	...	...	...	1	7	...	...	...	...	...	1	9
														19
														90
3rd Quarter.	Quay	...	...	...	...	1	5	...	...	...	...	...	1	7
	New Town	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Colliery	...	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	2	6
	Quay	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
	New Town	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Colliery	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
	Quay	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
	New Town	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	3
	Colliery	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	1	...	...	...	...	6
														12
														36
4th Quarter.	Quay	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	3	...	...	...	...	6
	New Town	2	...	...	...	...	4	...	1	...	...	...	...	7
	Colliery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Quay	...	...	1	...	1	2	...	...	1	...	...	1	6
	New Town	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Colliery	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
	Quay	7	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	11
	New Town	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
	Colliery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
														17
														39



**The 155 cases removed to and treated in the Hospital  
were distributed throughout the year as follows :—**

	QUAY.				NEW TOWN				COLLIERY.				TOTAL.				
	Quarters.				Quarters.				Quarters.				Quarters.				
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	
Small-pox	17	4	1	9	5	5	1	2	...	1	...	1	22	10	2	12	46
Scarlet Fever	15	9	3	3	...	4	...	6	35	3	6	4	50	26	9	13	98
Diphtheria	...	1	...	3	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	3	...	3	6
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	3	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	4	5
	32	14	4	18	5	11	1	9	35	15	6	5	72	40	11	32	155

**First Quarter.**

In the 1st Quarter, as will be seen from the preceding table, there were 156 cases notified, as compared with 29 cases notified in the corresponding Quarter of last year. Of the 156 cases notified, 72 were removed to and treated in the Isolation Hospital. The cases consisted of Smallpox, 23; Erysipelas, 6; Scarlet Fever, 60; Enteric Fever, 1; Puerperal Fever, 1; and Chicken Pox (Varicella), 65.

**Second Quarter.**

In the 2nd Quarter, as will be seen from the preceding table, there were 90 cases notified, as compared with 52 cases notified in the corresponding Quarter of last year. Of the 90 cases notified, 40 were removed to and treated in the Isolation Hospital. The cases consisted of Smallpox, 10; Diphtheria, 3; Erysipelas, 10; Scarlet Fever, 36; Typhoid, 3; Chicken Pox, 28.

**Third Quarter.**

In the 3rd Quarter, as will be seen from the preceding table, there were 36 cases notified, as compared with 64 cases notified in the corresponding Quarter of last year. Of the 36 cases notified 11 were removed to and treated in the Isolation Hospital. The cases consisted of Smallpox 2; Diphtheria, 1; Erysipelas, 4; Scarlet Fever, 24; Enteric Fever, 2; and Chicken Pox, 3.

### Fourth Quarter.

In the 4th Quarter, as will be seen from the preceding table, there were 39 cases notified, as compared with 59 cases notified in the corresponding Quarter of last year. Of the 39 cases notified, 32 were removed to and treated in the Isolation Hospital. The cases consisted of Smallpox, 11; Diphtheria, 2; Erysipelas, 5; Scarlet Fever, 10; Enteric Fever, 4; Puerperal Fever, 1; and Chicken Pox, 6.

### Scarlet Fever.

131 cases of this disease were notified during the year, as compared with 80 cases notified in 1903, and of the 131 cases notified, 98 cases were removed to and treated in the Isolation Hospital, that is, 75 per cent. of the cases were removed, and the remaining 25 per cent. treated at their homes. As will be seen from the preceding tables, this disease was more or less prevalent throughout the year, the 1st and 2nd Quarters being the heaviest.

There was one death from this disease in the Colliery district.

### Smallpox.

There were 46 cases of this disease notified, as compared with 12 cases in 1903, all of which were removed to and treated in the Smallpox Hospital. The cases occurred as follows:—

Quay	...	...	31
New Town	...	...	13
Colliery	...	...	2
			—
Total	...	...	46

There were 3 deaths from this disease. For further particulars concerning this epidemic disease see my special Report thereon, attached.

### Enteric Fever.

There were 10 cases of this disease notified, as compared with 11 cases notified in 1903. Of the 10 cases notified 5 were removed



and treated in the Isolation Hospital. The cases occurred as follows :—

Quay ...	...	4
New Town	...	5
Colliery ...	...	1
		—
Total	...	10

There were 2 deaths from this disease. In ascertaining the cause I invariably found the premises and houses in a filthy and dirty condition. There was one exception, the cause being probably the water or food whilst away from home.

The cause of this disease was traced to foul sinks, dirty yards and surroundings. In one instance the disease, I believe, was contracted out of the district.

#### **Diphtheria.**

There were 6 cases of this disease notified, as compared with 6 cases notified in 1903. All the cases notified were removed to and treated at the Isolation Hospital. The cases occurred as follows :—

Quay ...	...	4
New Town	...	1
Colliery ...	...	1
		—
Total	...	6

There were 4 deaths from this disease. The cause of this disease cannot be traced to anything beyond foul ashpits and dirty surroundings.

#### **Membranous Group.**

There were no cases notified.

#### **Puerperal Fever.**

There were 2 cases of this disease notified, as compared with 4 cases in 1903. The cases both occurred in the Quay. There was 1 death,

**Erysipelas.**

There were 25 cases of this disease notified, as compared with 29 cases in 1903. The cases occurred as follows :—

Quay	...	...	11
New Town	...	...	4
Colliery	...	...	10
<hr/>			
Total	...	...	25

There was one death from this disease.

**Measles.**

There was an epidemic of this disease during the middle period of the year, as compared with last year there was only a few sporadic cases. There were 15 deaths from this disease. They occurred as follows:—13 in the Quay, 2 in the New Town. Classified according to age, there were 3 deaths under one year, and 12 from 1 to 5 years.

**Closing of Schools.**

On account of the increasing prevalence of this epidemic disease (Measles) and the severe lowering of the percentages of attendances at the Schools, I deemed it advisable to acquaint my Council, who in turn notified through myself the Educational Committee, with the result that on July 11th the Infant Departments throughout the whole district were closed until July 29th, and on the 19th July the whole of the Schools were closed until July 29th.

During the vacations that is between July 11th and July 19th until July 29th the Schools were properly disinfected and cleaned, and the result was very satisfactory, the disease gradually declining, thus showing the importance of so dealing with the epidemic.

**Whooping Cough (Pertussis).**

There was quite an epidemic of this disease during the 3rd and 4th Quarter of the year, as compared with a few Sporadic cases in



1903. The disease was prevalent throughout the whole district. There were 13 deaths from this disease. They occurred as follows :—

Quay ...	...	7
New Town	...	1
Colliery ...	...	5
—		
Total	...	13

Classified according to age: Under 1 year 7 deaths, and from 1 to 5 years, 6 deaths.

### **Chicken Pox.**

There has been an epidemic of this disease prevalent throughout the whole district. The cases occurred as follows :—

Quay ...	...	46
New Town	...	30
Colliery ...	...	25
—		
Total	...	101

NOTIFICATION OF.—This disease was added to the list of notifiable diseases on March 25th, 1903. That is when Smallpox first visited our district. On account of its close resemblance to Smallpox, so that each case could be visited by myself and no mistake happen, but, I regret to say, that in spite of adding it to our list of notifiable diseases, and even circulating bills throughout the district pointing out that unless such was done the responsible parties would be liable to a penalty, it has been the means in one case of spreading Smallpox. The parents thinking the disease a mild case of Chicken Pox (whereas it was a mild case of Smallpox) did not call in a medical attendant, the result being that most of the family took the disease.

### **Measures taken for Preventing the Spread of Infectious Diseases.**

Every case notified during the year was visited by the Sanitary Inspector and myself. Each house was inspected as to its sanitary

condition, and the drains tested by smoke when deemed necessary. Disinfectants (Izal, Eukotas, Thymo Creolin, Carbolic Acid, or Thymo Creolin Powder), together with printed instructions, were supplied at each infected house. These instructions give full directions regarding the safe disinfecting of bed linen, bed clothing, excreta, &c., and how to isolate a patient. During the period of isolation the patients are visited by the Sanitary Inspector and myself to see that every precaution is being taken, and that the instructions are fully carried out. Non-notifiable diseases are also frequently supplied with disinfectants, etc., and in the discovery of these cases we have the co-operation of the School Board Officials and Vaccinating Officer. The School Board Officials call at the Health Department and receive information, and by so doing we are enabled to see that members from infected houses do not attend School.

The bedding, etc., of every infected house is taken on a van to the Fever Hospital, where it is thoroughly disinfected by steam, and dried by heated air (in the Thresh Disinfector), it is then placed in another van kept only for removing disinfected bedding, etc., and returned.

### **Disinfection of Houses.**

This is carried out after the removal of patients to the Hospital, recovery at home after the period of isolation, and after death from Phthisis. Sulphur Cakes, Sulphur Dioxide in tubes, and Spraying with Solutions of Hydrary Perchloride 1-1,000, or with Formalin, is generally what is used.

## District Fever Hospital.

### Hospital Expenditure—1904.

	£	s.	d.
Food and Maintenance ... ..	334	4	2
Wages:—Nurses, Domestics, and Special Hires ...	177	12	11
Repairs, Renewals, Disinfectants, &c. ...	88	4	7
Fuel and Light ... ..	69	18	2
Drugs, &c. ... ..	21	1	2
Ground Rent ... ..	19	1	8
Insurance, Rates, and Taxes ... ..	41	16	1
Removal of Patients ... ..	35	10	0
Painting ... ..	14	16	7
Electric Light Installation (part payment) ...	22	0	0
	<hr/>		
	£824	5	4

The above statement does not include expenditure in respect of Smallpox cases, nor of the Smallpox Hospital. For information *re* Smallpox expenditure see my Special Report attached.

It will be noticed from the above that the Hospital expenditure for 1904 is £146 17s. 8d. in excess of the previous year. This is accounted for by the greater number of patients removed to the Hospital during the year, viz., 109, compared with 60 last year. This works out at £7 11s. per head, as compared with £11 12s. per case treated in the Hospital last year, and £11 2s. per case treated in the Hospital in 1902.

Every effort has been made during the year to work the Hospital as economically as possible, consistent with efficiency, and I think the statement works out very satisfactory taking into consideration the fact that 49 more patients were removed to and treated in the Hospital during the year.

The expenditure on the Hospital is large, and much larger than I care to see it, but 1904 has been fairly well blessed with

Infectious Diseases (not including Smallpox). There is yet another item, and that is, if you carefully take into consideration the money spent on engaging men to be at the Hospital working the Disinfector, cleaning up generally, gardeners from the Cemetery, etc., etc., you will no doubt find that on a good deal less salary a man could be kept there constantly, and always be ready when wanted, he would keep the grounds cleaner, wash windows, paintings, etc., work a kitchen garden, etc. That, I think, would save money doubly, first as a salary, and secondly, he would clean and look after outside things generally at the Hospital, and so save expense and unnecessary expenditure in Repairs, Renewals, etc., and at the same time keep the Grounds as Hospital Grounds ought to be kept.

The Hospital is provided with a capable and well trained Matron (Miss E. J. Smith), a Sister, and two Probationers, also two Domestic Servants (a Cook and Ward Maid), and the services of a Washerwoman, and when necessary I have the authority to engage Special Nurses, so that the work is well done and the health of our Nurses kept up.

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## PART III.

### **General Sanitation.**

The district is well cared for, and kept in a very clean and healthy condition by the employees under our Surveyor (Mr. Paterson), the streets are well swept, gullies cleaned and drains flushed periodically, and I am pleased to say that from such a point the Council deserve every congratulation, but although our district is fairly healthy, from a health point of view, considering we live in the heart of industries, collieries, alkali works, shipyards, grease works, etc., I cannot say that some of the inhabitants are the cleanest of people, and therein lies the secret and cause of a

good deal of filth, etc., to be seen occasionally in back lanes. If only we could educate in some way or other those people, or if they would try to make their surroundings cleaner and healthier, how much a different aspect would be thrown on the town to strangers and others living in the district. Poverty, no doubt, brings a good many evils, and of that we have many examples of late, but let us hope that as times improve so will the habits and surroundings of those people I speak of do likewise. It will be much appreciated by all, and needless to say the extra expenses of the Council will gradually decline. Should such not take place I would advise another, or Assistant Sanitary Inspector, making two in all, and systematic house-to-house inspection periodically. That, I think, would swell our local Court, and perchance help, or at least be the turning point of a sad state of affairs, as far as the people and localities I speak of are concerned. As we are situated at present, it is much harder work with one Sanitary Inspector attending to this and that. I feel he has too much to do conscientiously, and when one takes into consideration the character of our district as compared with others of the same size and population, but without an industrial and hard-working class of people, we can quite understand how much harder is our district to work, from a sanitary point of view, than others differently situated.

The dirty condition of back yards and the choking of sinks is also often to be seen in our district. This I attribute to the keeping of fowls, etc., and careless tenants. Again I strongly urge house-to-house inspection.

### **Scavenging.**

This has been carried on most satisfactorily throughout the year taking into consideration the difficulty in obtaining hoppers at Tennant's Works and trucks at the Colliery. The Council are at present making a tip for the conveyance of refuse, etc., to sea by hoppers, on the land recently taken over near the River Tyne. The road, I understand, is nearly completed, so that shortly I expect all will be finished.

## Ash Pits and Ash Closets.

During the year there have been in different districts 13 ashpits turned into 19 ash closets. There still remains 452 ashpits throughout the district which must sooner or later be turned into ash closets. In the Colliery this work continues quietly and steadily whenever any repairing is needed to the outhouses the ashpits are converted into ash closets.

## New Buildings.

There were 72 new tenement houses built in 1904, as compared with 198 in 1903. They were distributed throughout the New Town and the Quay, particularly the New Town and East End.

# ❖ COLLIERY HOUSES. ❖

A special report was sent to the Hebburn Urban District Council from the County Council *re* the condition of the houses in the Colliery, and a special report was also read from myself to the Council in 1903. And on September 2nd, 1903, the Colliery Owners were served with notice under Section 32 of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890, requiring the company to make the following premises fit for human habitation. The houses included were :—

Chapel Row	...	...	12 houses.
Square	...	...	39 "
Tarry Row	...	...	5 "
Store Row	...	...	10 "
Smokey Row	...	...	7 "
Quality Row	...	...	5 "
East High Lane Row	...	...	49 "
West High Lane Row	...	...	15 "
Total	...	...	142 "

At the same time it was pointed out that the 21 houses in Waggonman's Row were damp, ill-ventilated, and not suitable for miners with large families.

On November 3rd, 1903, the occupiers of the houses were given notice to quit and vacate the same on the 3rd December, 1903.

On May 31st, 1904, the houses were inspected again by the Sanitary Inspector and myself, and it was found that they had all been vacated except 41, and which houses still remained occupied.

After a good deal of correspondence between the Colliery Manager (Mr. Anderson) and the Hebburn Urban District Council, it was finally agreed that the Medical Officer (myself) and the Surveyor (Mr. Paterson) meet Mr. Anderson and the Colliery Officials at the Colliery, and the houses were once more inspected and discussed, and the following repairs were agreed to and suggested so as to make them suitable for habitation, viz. :—

### **Waggonman's Row - 21 Houses.**

Houses downstairs satisfactory, upstairs suggested skylight to Colliery pattern 2ft. x 1ft. 6in. to open. Any repairs necessary to outhouses to be attended to, and when necessary to be rebuilt to be made into ash closets.

### **Store Row.**

4 on West Side, 3 houses to put in dormer windows, and skylights in upstairs.

No. 7 all right. Put tenant in.

No. 4, 5, and 6 on North Side. Windows in back for through ventilation. The yards cemented and enclosed, and spouting put in order. Cement channel at the back, and put the spouting in order.

No. 1, 2, and 3. Skylight upstairs, channel back and front,



### **Solomon's Row and Tarry Row—10 Houses.**

Door upstairs and down to make double houses into single through and through houses. Pull down outhouses on Tarry Row side. Yards in front cemented and enclosed.

### **Square, East Side, and Chapel Row—12 houses back to back.**

To be made through and through houses by breaking through doorway in centre wall. Outhouses on Square, side to be pulled down. Yards on east side to be cemented.

No. 12, on end, all right. Can be occupied if the yard be cemented, and earth closet be built in place of ashpit

### **Square, South Side—9 Houses.**

Cemented walls and channel at back of houses, and spouting put right. Skylights to be fixed in bedrooms.

### **Square, Middle Row—8 Houses.**

Skylights in top room and cemented. Channel at back.

No. 39, side window to be shifted to the back.

### **Square—West Side.**

Channel at back, and skylights in top rooms.

No. 22 on end, skylight in gable, and gable pointing and yard cemented.

### **High Lane Row West—15 Houses.**

Skylights to be fixed in top rooms, yards cementing at back. Three tiled roofs to be slated.

### **High Lane Row East—49 Houses.**

Skylights in top rooms. Roofs repairing where necessary. Yards cementing. Front pantries to be cemented next to ground.

### **Quality Row—5 Houses.**

No. 18 to have air grates into floors, and cement channel from house roof,



No. 14, 15, 16, 17, skylights in upstairs bedrooms. Yards to be cemented and partition taken out of bedrooms.

### **Smokey Row—7 Houses.**

That a Magistrates' Order be taken out, and the houses condemned.

The above-mentioned repairs were agreed to by the Council and the Colliery Company. The next point for discussion was the open channels, and it was agreed that the present open channels be made water-tight by grouting with cement and used for surface water only, and as under these channels there is a pipe sewer, gullies will be fixed in the proportion of 1 to every 4 houses. The only portion that was without a pipe sewer was in High Lane Row East, and extended from the North-Eastern Railway southward to the middle of the second block northward. That, the Council again agreed to lay a 9-inch sewer pipe, and the Colliery Company to put in gullies as before, one to every 4 houses, settles a very important question.

Once that these alterations have been made, which I sincerely hope the Colliery Company will push boldly forward, the miners and their families will dwell in their old homes under very much improved conditions.

### **Water Supply.**

The water is obtained by the Sunderland and South Shields Water Company from deep wells sunk in Magnesian Limestone, and is supplied with sufficient force to reach the highest points in our district from the Boldon Reservoir. It is very plentiful, hard, and of very good quality.

### **Cow Sheds, Dairies, and Milk Shops.**

There are six licensed cow-keepers in and about the New Town, and 18 milk shops throughout the whole district. They have been visited periodically and found clean and quite satisfactory. The cowsheds were washed with lime twice a year.

### **Slaughter Houses.**

There are no properly licensed slaughter houses, public or private. Most of the butchers do their killing in the shops which have cemented floors.

There are 14 slaughter shops and 32 retail fresh meat, pork, and chilled and frozen meat shops in the whole district. Most of the slaughter houses are provided with tubs (wood and iron) which are cleaned and emptied periodically. A public slaughter house, with proper bye-laws, etc., is still receiving the attention of the Council.

### **Common Lodging Houses.**

There is only one small licensed lodging house in the town. It is visited periodically, and found to be kept clean and regularly lime-washed. A few more properly licensed lodging houses in the town would greatly relieve the pressure of over-crowding.

### **Factory and Workshops.**

There are 7 registered workshops in the district. These have been visited and found free from over-crowding, and quite up to the Factory and Workshops' Regulations.

### **Public Bakehouses.**

These have been inspected and found in a very clean state, and quite satisfactory.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. M. G. WALKER, L.R.C.P. & S.E.,

Medical Officer of Health.

# SMALLPOX.

There has been a marked increase in the prevalence of this disease. 46 cases occurred throughout the year, as compared with 13 cases in 1903. With the exception of July, September, and November, it occurred every month.

The following table gives the localities and months of the year the disease occurred.

## Districts.

Months.	Quay.	New Town.	Colliery.	Total.
January ...	5	2	...	7
February ...	8	1	...	9
March ...	5	2	...	7
April ...	1	1	1	3
May ...	1	4	...	5
June ...	2	...	...	2
July ...	...	...	...	...
August ...	1	1	...	2
September ...	...	...	...	...
October ...	...	2	...	2
November ...	...	...	...	...
December ...	7	1	1	9
	30	14	2	46

As will be seen from the above table, 30 cases occurred in the Quay, 14 in the New Town, and 2 in the Colliery.

In nearly every instance the disease has been introduced into the district from the neighbouring Boroughs and Urban Districts through the medium of the inhabitants visiting friends, men working in other towns, and last but not least, the hawking of second-hand clothing, which in two instances I traced to the

clothes having been infected. Much has been said about the spreading of the disease by tramps and vagrants. These persons, I have not the slightest doubt, help very much the carrying and the spreading of the infection in the first instance. Dr. Armstrong, Medical Officer of Health for Newcastle-on-Tyne, has drawn up a splendid report upon such, and it is to be sincerely hoped that steps will be taken to have some control over these individuals. He has my earnest support. But, once the disease is rooted in the vicinity, such as it is at present on the banks of the Tyne, I speak from practical experience of the last two years, that is, I would compel vaccination for all contacts (after removal of smallpox patient) whether quarantined for 14 days or not, thorough disinfection for the houses, and all clothing therein. The prevention of hawkers of second-hand clothing from coming into the district. The latter I have not the slightest doubt have spread the disease more than is really supposed. It has come to my knowledge that in houses where the disease has been, the inmates quarantined have actually been selling clothes to the hawkers, who either buy or sell, and who on their rounds have in my experience been selling infected clothing. To stop this could easily be done by refusing a hawking licence for such. The other causes, men working in other towns and inhabitants visiting friends in other towns, we can scarcely deal with beyond urging not quite so much privacy. It is strange, but nevertheless true, that certain people hide the knowledge of having been in contact in case they should have to be vaccinated, or should they take the disease, removed to Hospital. Vaccination means, of course, a few days at home for the bread-winner, but still in some instances they prefer to run the risk rather than lose work, in spite of the fact that they are slightly compensated. It has been said to me that they fear losing their employment, but in every instance where my directions have been followed, their employers have been written, and no such loss has taken place.

The precautions taken in our district are:—The patient is removed at once to the Smallpox Hospital (which, although temporary, has stood the district well since the first outbreak on the 25th of March, 1903). Contacts are immediately vaccinated and

quarantined from 10-14 days, and kept under strict supervision and observation. The bedding and clothing are all removed to the Disinfector (Threst) and thoroughly disinfected and returned to the houses after they have been disinfected and cleaned. The disinfectants used are Sulphur Cakes, Sulphur Dioxide in tubes, and Formalin.

[There has been much commenting of late about the unnecessary expenses of quarantine contacts. I must say that it has proved very successful in our district, and I could not urge the vaccination and keeping under strict supervision to be adopted, bearing in mind the class of inhabitants we have to deal with, although in some districts I have not the slightest doubt it could be made to act very well, that is, in districts that are scattered and not so thickly populated.]

Periodically throughout the year Printed Bills have been posted warning the inhabitants that Smallpox was still prevalent, urging cleanliness, and the reporting of Chicken Pox, which was added to the list of notifiable diseases on the 25th March, 1903.

## Summary of Cases.

Dates of Invasion.	Address.	Locality.	No. of Cases.	Quarantines.		No. of cases under observation
				H'sp'tl	Home	
Jan. 2nd, 1904	223 William St.	Quay	4	...	5	...
" 6th, "	82 William St.	Quay	1	...	13	...
" 28th, "	63 Thistle Lane	New Town	1	...	6	...
" 28th, "	65 Station Lane	New Town	1	...	8	...
Feb. 6th, "	24 Collins Lane	Quay	4	1	5	...
" 11th, "	35 Thistle St.	New Town	1	...	7	2
" 16th, "	15 James Lane	Quay	2	...	9	6
" 22nd, "	15 James Lane	Quay	1	...	27	...
" 28th, "	14 Parliament St	Quay	1	...	5	10
Mar. 1st, "	16 William St.	Quay	1	1	5	9
" 12th, "	24 Collins Lane	Quay	2	...	2	20
" 20th, "	14 Price Street	Quay	2	...	17	3
" 22nd, "	57 High Station Lane	New Town	1	...	6	4
" 22nd, "	51 High Station Lane	New Town	1	...	7	6
Apr. 2nd, "	67 Ellison St.	Quay	1	...	8	1
" 12th, "	8 Harvey Street	Colliery	1	...	7	4
" 30th, "	52 St. Rollox St.	New Town	1	...	5	...
May 1st, "	25 Glen Street	New Town	1	...	7	...
" 3rd, "	16 Glen Street	New Town	1	...	...	...
" 14th, "	16 Glen Street	New Town	1	...	...	...
" 21st, "	18 Glen Street	New Town	1	...	3	...
" 29th, "	1 Cuthbert Lane	Quay	1	...	7	9
June 14th, "	11 Cuthbert Lane	Quay	1	...	5	...
" 26th, "	11 Cuthbert Lane	Quay	1	...	8	...
Aug. 22nd, "	7 Argyle Street	Quay	1	...	8	...
" 27th, "	32 Tennant St.	New Town	1	...	14	...
Oct. 9th, "	28 Station Road	New Town	1	...	10	3
" 19th, "	28 Station Road	New Town	1	...	...	...
Nov. 8th, "	41 Till Street	New Town	1	...	3	8
" 8th, "	Poulterer's Close	Quay	1	...	4	3
Dec. 20th, "	179 Cuthbert St.	Quay	5	1	...	4
" 20th, "	13 Caledonian St.	Quay	2	5	4	...
		Total ...	46	8	215	92

\* There was also 10 persons notified from Medical Officer of other districts.  
In every instance they were kept under observation.

As will be seen from the preceding table, there were 46 cases during the year, 8 persons quarantined at the Hospital, 215 persons quarantined and fed at home, and 92 persons under observation for 14 days.

### Hospital (Smallpox) Expenditure for 1904.

					£	s.	d.
Food and Maintenance	...	...	...	...	250	14	10
Wages :—Nurses, Domestic, &c.	...	...	...	...	131	10	10
Repairs, Renewals, and Disinfectants	...	...	...	...	42	1	1
Drugs, &c.	...	...	...	...	20	2	1
Ground Rent	...	...	...	...	9	10	10
Fuel and Light	...	...	...	...	54	12	2
Insurance	...	...	...	...	1	15	0
Goods Damaged	...	...	...	...	53	7	10
Removal of Patients, &c.	...	...	...	...	54	5	1
					<hr/>		
					£617	19	9

The above expenditure includes the feeding of contacts at home, etc.; in fact, any expense that was due to Smallpox.

The Smallpox Hospital is situated about 200 yards away from the Fever Hospital, and a quarter of a mile from the nearest houses. Everything has worked well concerning it, and I have never had any reason to complain from its situation and close proximity to the Fever Hospital and town.

The Council have under consideration the Proposed Joint Smallpox Hospital Scheme. The districts included are Jarrow, Felling, Southwick, Sunderland Rural, South Shields Rural, and Hebburn, and which I understand has recently been adopted, and will shortly be put into force. In joining such a scheme I must say the Council have acted wisely. Any danger that might arise for

our Temporary Smallpox Hospital will, by such, be at once removed.

In conclusion, I beg to thank the Council and Officials for their kind support in dealing with the epidemic.

I am, Sirs,

Your obedient Servant,

A. M. G. WALKER, L.R.C.P. & S.E.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.





# SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

BY

MR. R. S. THOMSON.



**Summary of Work done in the Inspector of Nuisances'  
Department, for the year 1904, for the Urban  
District Council of Hebburn.**

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.	Informal Notices.	Formal Notices.	Nuisances abated after notice.	REMARKS.
Foul Conditions .. ..	38	2	38	
Structural Defects .. ..	55	16	55	
Overcrowding .. ..	2		2	
Lodging Houses .. ..				
Dairies and Milkshops .. ..				
Cowsheds .. ..				
Bakehouses .. ..				
Slaughter-houses .. ..				
Ashpits and Privies .. ..	13	2	13	13 ashpits replaced by 19 ash-closets.
Deposits of Refuse and Manure..				
Waterclosets .. ..				
Defective Yard Paving .. ..	9	4	9	
Defective Traps .. ..				
Sinks Choked .. ..	24	7	24	
No Disconnection from Sewer ..				
Other Faults .. ..	17		17	
Water Supply .. ..	2	1	2	
Pigsties .. ..				
Animals improperly kept .. ..				
Offensive Trades .. ..				
Smoke Nuisances .. ..				
Gutters and Spouts .. ..	25	11	25	
TOTALS .. ..	185	43	185	

		Remarks.
HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES ACT, 1890.		The Colliery Co. are now busy putting houses into habitable condition. It is understood the Company will repair all houses, except Smokey Row, for which a closing order will be applied for shortly.
Formal Notices served .. ..	I	
Dwellings dealt with .. ..	160	
Dwellings made habitable after notice ..	..	
Closing orders applied for .. ..	..	
Closing orders granted by Justices .. ..	..	
Dwellings permanently closed .. ..	..	
FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.		
Action taken, Notices served, &c. .. ..	..	
WATER, FOOD AND DRUGS.		
Samples of Water taken for Analysis .. ..	..	
Seizures of unwholesome food .. ..	..	
Samples of Food and Drugs taken for Analysis .. ..	..	
PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE.		
Lots of Infectious Bedding stoved or destroyed .. ..	199	
Houses disinfected after Infectious Disease .. ..	209	
Schools do. do. .. ..	7	
Prosecutions for exposure of infected persons or things .. ..	..	

R. S. THOMSON,

JANUARY 20th, 1904.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES.

